

A Game-Changer	
<i>Passé dans le présent:</i> ‘Sport has the power to change the world...it has the power to inspire. It has the power to unite people in a way that little else does. It speaks to youth in a language they understand. Sport can create hope where once there was only despair. It is more powerful than government in breaking down racial barriers.’ - Nelson Mandela	
	How has sport become more than a game, a tool of protest and social change ?
At the end of the Unit, I will	Embody an athlete and deliver a speech
What vocabulary will I need ?	- racism - sports - social advancement
What grammatical structure will I need ?	- talk about the past - compare - make supposition
What documents will be used ?	1) A tool against racism 1a- Tommie Smith and John Carlos, Olympic Stadium, Mexico City, October 16, 1968 1b- In History: How Tommie Smith and John Carlos's protest at the 1968 Mexico City Olympics shook the world Myles Burke, 16 October 2023, BBC 1c- Front Cover, US – Time Magazine, Colin Kaepernick , October 3rd, 2016, Vol. 188, No. 13 1d- How Americans really feel about Colin KAepernieck and the Anthem Protests 2) A mean of unification 2a-South African President Nelson Mandela presents the William Webb Ellis Cup to Springbok captain Francois Pienaar after the 1995 Rugby World Cup final, Johannesburg 2b- Invictus, the Final, movie directed by Clint Eastwood, with Morgan Freeman and Matt Damon, 2009 2c- Invictus, movie still, Clint Eastwood, 2009 2d- The South African flag, A combination of History, Unity and Meaning, Ac Legrand, 2026 2e- Apartheid explained, AJ+; 2001 3) Resilience 3a – Invictus, William Ernest Henley, 1888 + powtoon by proflegrand78 : poem read by Morgan Freeman 3b- Invictus Games, Logo, 2014 3c – road to Invitus: What drove more than 500 participants to compete 3d- The Invictus Games Foundation, 2014 3e- The

	Invictus Games Birmingham 2027 4) Working on unity 4a-An Anthem to celebrate unity, 'Ireland's Call'. 18 September 2023 Classic FM 4b- What is The Nations Championship? Explaining rugby's new competition, fixtures, format - James ReganJul 17, 2026, www.espn.com 4c- Commonwealth Games Richard Means, 2020 5) sports and politics 5a- Bad Bunny's Super Bowl halftime show explained Paulina Arana, www.newsrecord.org, Feb 13, 2026 + illustrations When politics gets a Red card, cartoon by Soumyadip Sinhart, The Hindu, 5b-When politics gets a Red card, cartoon by Soumyadip Sinhart, The Hindu, 2026
What will I learn about ?	How sport has impacted and still impacts our society
Final Task EOC	"Sport has the power to change the world... It has the power to unite people » As a former Athlete and Guest of Honor, you will deliver a speech at the Opening Ceremony of the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic Games

Instructions for your Final Task :

- 1- The speech will have to be delivered in class.
- 2- It must last 2 to 3 minutes
- 3- you will need to use examples from the past and the present,
- 4- you must give an answer to our sequence about how sport may or may not change our society for the best
- 5- you will need to be convincing
- 6- you may be two people together, embodying each someone different but your acting must be relevant

1) Sport as a tool against racism

1a- Tommie Smith and John Carlos, picture repérage, explication

Travail sur la photo: imaginer ce qu'ils se sont dit avant, ce qu'ils pensent, ce qu'ils se sont dit après:
Travail de lecture

1b- The Black Power protest salute that shook the world in 1968, *The Washington Post*, 2017

1c- Colin Kaepernick : time magazine: travail sur la photo et sur

1d- How Americans really feel about Colin Kaepernieck and the Anthem Protests le petit texte à côté
Meaning?

Travail de rédaction

2) unification

2a- South African President Nelson Mandela presents the William Webb Ellis Cup to Springbok captain Francois Pienaar, Johannesburg, 1995 Rugby World Cup final

2b- Invictus, the Final, movie directed by Clint Eastwood, with Morgan Freeman and Matt Damon, 2009

2c- Invictus, movie still sur les deux drapeaux, explication 4





2d - explication du drapeau

2e- what is apartheid?

travail sur hommage de François Piennar à Mandela / capitaine rugby pour les 10 ans de la mort de Madela

3) Resilience

3a – travail sur le poème : lecture du poème et explication : présenter le poème comme étant celui qui a guidé Mandela pendant toute ses années de prison puis glissé vers le handicap : handicap de Mandela = prison, celle du poète = d'être enfermé dans son impossibilité de se mouvoir

https://www.powtoon.com/online-presentation/cWAljMfSjrR/?utm_medium=SocialShare&utm_campaign=studio-share%2Bshare%2Bby%2Bowner&utm_source=studio-share-button&utm_content=cWAljMfSjrR&utm_po=30558899&mode=movie#/

powtoon lecture du texte par Nelson Mandela, illustration Invictus

3b-Invictus games logo, 2014

explication du logo : from dark to light, beacon, podium : I AM

puis travail sur les 3 doc en // : d'abord CO puis travail de recherche sur ordinateur puis présentation Invictus Games Birmingham : faire faire travail sur

Écritre d'un article de promotion as a sportsman, a spouse, a person working for the invictu games

3c – road to Invitus: What drove more than 500 participants to compete

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MC7voCqzdxA>

3d- The Invictus Games Foundation, 2014 : <https://www.invictusgamesfoundation.org/>

3e- The Invictus Games Birmingham 2027 : <https://www.invictusgames2027.org/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MC7voCqzdxA>

Découverte du site et des invitus GAMES de Birmingham

4) Working on unity

4a-An Anthem to celebrate unity, 'Ireland's Call'. 18 September 2023 Classic FM

4b- What is The Nations Championship? Explaining rugby's new competition, fixtures, format - James Regan Jul 17, 2026, www.espn.com

4c- Commonwealth Games Richard Means, 2020

travail sur les 3 articles en // en groupe work de 3 idéalement
résumé, explication à faire => repérage des éléments essentiels
groupe remélanger de sorte à avoir des groupes avec les 3 textes, échange, explication et conclusion
autour du thème Working on unity
écriture d'une conclusion avec le binôme / trinôme de son choix
(ramassé // noté si on le souhaite)

travail autour du vocabulaire du Commonwealth Games :

Chaque groupe pioche une mission.

Mission 1

You're the Mayor of the host city.

Prepare a 1-minute speech to welcome the athletes.

Use at least 8 vocabulary words.

Mission 2

You're a Commonwealth athlete.

Explain:

- what sport means to you
- how sport can change the world

Use at least 8 words.

Mission 3

You're organising the next Commonwealth Games.

Choose:

- a host city
- three sports
- one charity
- one world issue to highlight

Use at least 10 words.

Mission 4

Some people think the Commonwealth Games are outdated.

Prepare arguments FOR or AGAINST.

Use vocabulary from:

- Shared Values
- Development
- (Dis)Agreement

5) sports and politics

5a- When politics gets a Red card, cartoon by Soumyadip Sinhart, The Hindu,
travail sur le document iconographique

5b-Bad Bunny's Super Bowl halftime show explained Paulina Arana, www.newsrecord.org, Feb 13, 2026

travail de vocabulaire : deviner le sens des mots

mettre en parallèle les photos et le document

résumé sous forme de 5 questions → échange des questions , réponses écrite puis conclusion à l'écrit

illustration issue de : <https://www.forbes.com/sites/hannahabraham/2026/02/08/what-did-bad-bunnys-halftime-show-mean-every-cultural-reference-broken-down/>

illustration :



illustration issue de : <https://www.forbes.com/sites/hannahabraham/2026/02/08/what-did-bad-bunnys-halftime-show-mean-every-cultural-reference-broken-down/>





In History: How Tommie Smith and John Carlos's protest at the 1968 Mexico City Olympics shook the world

US athlete Tommie Smith attained international fame when he gave the Black Power salute at the 1968 Mexico City Olympics, 55 years ago. But as the exclusive BBC Archive clips in this new series reveal, that protest came at a heavy cost.

On 16 October 1968, two black US athletes – Tommie Smith and John Carlos – stood on the podium at the Mexico City Olympics, heads bowed. They wore black socks with no shoes; Smith wore a black scarf around his neck. As the US national anthem played, they each raised a black-gloved hand in silent protest.

Although no words were spoken, the moment was full of meaning. Smith, who had won gold in the 200m, setting a new world record, raised his right fist to represent Black Power. Bronze medallist Carlos, wearing a bead necklace to symbolise the lynchings of black Americans, raised his left fist to represent black unity. The scarf stood for black pride and the socks with no shoes represented African-American poverty.

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It was a year of intense political and social turmoil: the Vietnam War and the anti-war movement were in full swing, and the Civil Rights Movement had made the struggle for racial equality one of the defining issues of the era. In April, Dr Martin Luther King Jr had been **murdered** by a white gunman in Memphis, and presidential candidate Robert Kennedy was assassinated in Los Angeles **a little over two months later**. The period leading up to the 1968 Olympics was punctuated by widespread unrest. Many black athletes felt a deep sense of anger and frustration at the injustices they were facing every day.

In the wake of the protest, Smith and Carlos were vilified by much of the media and shunned by the US sporting establishment. In the years that followed, they were subjected to abuse and death threats. Smith attributed **the break-up of his marriage** to the stress of dealing with the fallout. When he should have been at the peak of his career, the US Olympic committee banned him from national and international competitions. By 1972, instead of preparing for the Munich Olympics, Smith, who was still the fastest man in the world, was reduced to training schoolchildren in Wakefield in northern England to earn a living.

Sport was one of the few areas where the ability of the individual could triumph over the barriers faced by black Americans, Smith explains in this BBC archive video. "The black athlete... has grown to know that the body could be a springboard to success. I think he works doubly hard at that as he would at anything else. Because in athletics, especially track and field, nobody can say you are no good. The only person who can say that is that clock," he says.

The only regret was that it had to be done – Tommie Smith in 2012

Despite the hardships he endured, Smith continued to speak out for social justice and equality. He completed a master's degree in sociology in 1974 and moved into teaching and athletics coaching, becoming a prominent advocate for racial equality in sport and society.

In 2008, Smith and Carlos were honoured with the **Arthur Ashe Courage Award**, which is presented annually to individuals whose contributions "transcend sports". US President Barack Obama **said of the pair**: "Their powerful silent protest in the 1968 Games was controversial, but it woke folks up and created greater opportunity for those that followed."

When asked by BBC Newsnight In 2012 if he regretted the salute, Smith said: "The only regret was that it had to be done".

THE SOUTH AFRICAN FLAG

A COMBINATION OF HISTORY, UNITY & MEANING

Adopted on 27 April 1994, the South African flag is a powerful symbol of the nation's diverse people, history, and hopes for the future.

A BLEND OF HISTORIES

Some believe the colors were influenced by a combination of history.

FROM COLONIAL FLAGS (British & Dutch)



red/orange, white, and blue

FROM LIBERATION FLAGS (including the ANC)



black, gold (yellow), and green



RED

The bloodshed during the war; bravery; strength.

WHITE

The white population; honesty; peace.

BLUE

The Atlantic and Indian Oceans or the wide sky overhead; truth, loyalty.

GREEN

Fertility of the land; love, hope, and joy for the land.

YELLOW (GOLD)

The mineral wealth that is below the soil; gold.

BLACK

The determination of the black race.

WHAT THE DESIGN REPRESENTS



The black isosceles triangle on the hoist side points inward, representing the convergence of diverse elements of South African society.



The green Y-shape symbolizes the union of different cultures and pathways, moving forward in unity.



The white fimbriation (separating stripes) represents peace and the wish for harmony among all people.



The horizontal bands (red and blue) are balanced by the Y-shape, signifying that South Africa takes its place in the world.

IN UNITY, THERE IS STRENGTH



The South African flag is a unifying emblem that celebrates the country's past, honors the present, and inspires a future of equality, peace, and shared prosperity for all.

An Anthem to celebrate unity

Ireland's national anthem, 'Amhrán na bhFiann', known as 'The Soldier's Song', was written by childhood friends, Peadar Kearney and Patrick Heeney, between the years 1909 and 1910. While Heeney composed the melody on his melodeon, Kearney wrote the text. The Irish version was officially adopted as the national anthem in 1926, following calls for a united approach to the national anthem. Before that, for hundreds of years Irish people had 'God Save the King/Queen' as their national anthem.

What are the lyrics to the Irish national anthem 'Amhrán na bhFiann'?

Sinne Fianna Fáil, Atá faoi gheall ag Eirinn, Buíonn dár slua, thar toinn do ráinig chugainn, Faoi mhóid bheith saor, seantír ár sinsear feasta Ní fhágfar faoin tíorán ná faoin tráill; Anocht a théam sa Bhearna Baoil Le gean ar Ghaeil chun báis nó saoil, le gunnaí scréach, trí lámhach na bpiléar, Seo dhíbh canáigh, Amhrán na bhFiann.

Soldiers are we, Whose lives are pledged to Ireland, Some have come from a land beyond the wave, Sworn to be free, no more our ancient sireland Shall shelter the despot or the slave; Tonight we man the Bearna Baoil In Erin's cause come woe or weal, 'Mid cannon's roar and rifle's peal, We'll chant a soldier's song.

The song has three verses, but only the above chorus is used as the country's official national anthem.

Why does Ireland sing two national anthems?

'Amhrán na bhFiann' is steeped in a complex history, its lyrics telling of Ireland's fight against a foreign enemy, and arousing sensitivities among ex-unionists in Ireland. During the War of Independence between 1919 and 1921, 'Amhrán na bhFiann' was adopted by Sinn Féin and for a while, was known as the 'Sinn Féin anthem'. As the anthem was banned by British forces, its popularity grew, and it was decided that it was the right anthem for the new Free State.

Today, the Ireland rugby team is made up of players from both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, whose official anthem is 'God Save the King/Queen'. Ahead of the 1995 Rugby World Cup in South Africa, the Irish Rugby Football Union decided to commission a new song, given several of its members were from Northern Ireland and considered the use of the Republic's anthem appropriate. Today, Irish sports teams now often sing Phil Coulter's 'Ireland's Call' at international matches either alongside, or instead of, 'Amhrán na bhFiann'.

What is the national anthem in Northern Ireland?

Northern Ireland's official national anthem is 'God Save the King', but there are some variations including at the Commonwealth Games, where ' Londonderry Air' is used as the Northern Irish team's victory anthem. When Northern Irish players compete alongside players from the Republic of Ireland as one team, they all sing

'Ireland's Call'. 18 September 2023 Classic FM

Commonwealth Games

The Commonwealth Games is an international athletic competition held every four years among members of the Commonwealth of Nations. By the 2026 Commonwealth Games, seventy-two nations and territories belonging to the Commonwealth were recognized, collectively representing nearly one-third of the world's population. Like the Summer Olympic Games, the Commonwealth Games is a televised event comprising multiple fair-weather sports, such as athletics, boxing, hockey, netball, rugby and swimming.

The Commonwealth Games are also known as the Friendly Games due to the event's atmosphere of friendly competition between Commonwealth member states. The Commonwealth Games Federation states that the core values of the games are humanity, equality and destiny.

The host location changes for each Commonwealth Games

Australia hosted in Sydney in 1938, Perth in 1962, Brisbane in 1982, Melbourne in 2006 and Gold Coast, Queensland, in 2018. New Zealand hosted the games in Auckland in 1950, Christchurch in 1974, and Auckland again in 1990. England hosted the 2002 games in Manchester and the 2022 games in Birmingham; Delhi, India, hosted the 2010 games; and Scotland hosted the 2014 and is schedule to host the 2026 games in Glasgow.

Origins and History

Although it is now described as an event celebrating the shared values and common attributes of participating nations, the Commonwealth Games began as a celebration of the strength of the British Empire and the friendly relationships between its dominions.

The first large-scale sporting competition between British Empire territories was organised in 1911 to celebrate the coronation of King George V. The Festival of Empire, held in London, included a multi-event competition between Australasia, Canada, South Africa and the United Kingdom. The Festival of Empire Games were held only once, but the success of the 1928 Olympic Games in Amsterdam inspired British officials to organise another intra-empire friendly sporting event.

The inaugural Commonwealth Games, then known as the British Empire Games, took place in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, in 1930. The Hamilton Games, overseen by British Empire Games chair Sir James Leigh-Wood, consisted of four hundred

athletes from eleven nations competing in fifty-nine events. The games have been held every four years since 1930, interrupted only in 1942 and 1946 by World War II. The British Empire Games were retitled the British Empire and Commonwealth Games in 1954. In 1978, they became known simply as the Commonwealth Games. Since 1958, the Commonwealth Games have been preceded by the Queen's Baton Relay, during which a silver baton inscribed by Queen Elizabeth II is carried through all participating nations and territories before reaching the host city at the end of its route. The Queen's Baton Relay resembles the practise of carrying the Olympic Games torch through participating nations.

The Commonwealth Games added team competitions beginning in 1998 and a Para Sports programme in 2002, permitting athletes with disabilities to compete in a range of the games' events.

Rules and Regulations

The Commonwealth Games occur over an eleven-day period every four years. Participating athletes compete in a range of sport events, earning medals for victories. Each event is hosted by a member nation of the Commonwealth of Nations. Like the Olympic Games, eligible countries enter bids to host a future games event in one of their cities. The host city is chosen eight years before the event is to be held. Commonwealth Games must include ten to seventeen sports, ten of which are mandatory; Para Sports must include four sports and no more than twenty events.

The games are administered and regulated by the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF). The CGF maintains a constitution, which lays out the rules and regulations for competition at the games, as well as codes of conduct for participating athletes, including anti-doping provisions. As part of its goal of maintaining the Commonwealth Games' friendly atmosphere, the CGF constitution includes articles on gender equity and anti-discrimination.

Richard Means, 2020

What is The Nations Championship? Explaining rugby's new competition, fixtures, format

Billed as a "North vs. South" competition, the Nations Championship will see rugby's top international teams compete against each other over two phases in July and November.

The Six Nations sides (England, Ireland, Wales, Scotland, France and Italy) will face six southern hemisphere teams (New Zealand, South Africa, Australia, Argentina, Japan and Fiji) across six rounds: Three in the "southern series" in July and another three in the "northern series" in November.

Here is everything you need to know about the tournament.

What is the tournament for?

The tournament is an attempt to add extra meaning to the traditional mid and end-of-year Test matches.

Typically, northern hemisphere teams will travel south for a series in the middle of the year and vice-versa in November/December, with nothing (other than pride) on the line. The Nations Championship combines everyone for a biennial competition that will have an eventual overall winner.

Teams will play one match against a rival nation before moving on to the next across six weekends in July and November, as opposed to the traditional multi-test series.

How does it work?

While countries will face opponents from the opposite hemisphere, they will be in a table with their domestic counterparts. For example, the Six Nations teams will be in one table and the Rugby Championship sides, as well as Japan and Fiji, will be placed in another. After the six rounds, teams will face the equivalent team from the rival table.

For example, if Scotland were to finish third in the northern table and Australia are third southern standings, they will face off on finals weekend for overall third place. Teams will earn four points for a win, two for a draw. Bonus points will be awarded for losing by seven points or fewer and scoring four tries.

There is also a overall competition between the hemisphere, with points awarded in the final round of matches. For example, if Ireland were to face New Zealand in a finals match, Ireland would win a point for the northern hemisphere.

James Regan Jul 17, 2026, www.espn.com

Bad Bunny's Super Bowl halftime show explained

Bad Bunny performed at Super Bowl 60 on Feb. 8, 2026. Surpassing 135 million views, his show is now the most watched Super Bowl Halftime performance of all time. His performance turned the football field into a celebration of Puerto Rican culture, while reminding the world the power of love and emphasizing unity. Although his message was clear, the performance was layered with symbolism — let's break it down.

The show began in a sugar cane field and **spotlighted** its workers, known as jíbaros, wearing traditional vestments and the “pava” hat — an authentic symbol of Puerto Rican identity and resistance. This imagery honored the labor that shaped the island's history and heavily influenced surrounding sugar empires. Bad Bunny appeared in the middle of this field in a customized jersey featuring his last name “Ocasio,” paying tribute to his lineage. As he passed through the field carrying a football, he bumped into multiple aspects of Puerto Rican culture. (...) The focus then switched to “La Casita” — a house meant to resemble a typical home on the island. The house featured Hispanic celebrities. The incorporation of these stars highlighted the many Latinos who contribute to American culture alongside Bad Bunny.

During the intro of “MONACO,” he delivered a Spanish monologue explaining how he only got to where he is because he never stopped believing in himself — a journey that took him from bagging groceries a decade ago to the Super Bowl stage. He ended by urging people to also believe in themselves and their own value.

The only lyrics he sings of “MONACO” is “Esto es lo que tú querías” which led viewers into the surprise appearance of Lady Gaga singing a salsa version of “Die With a Smile.” These lyrics translate to “This is what you wanted” — a reference to critics of this all-Spanish performance. Bad Bunny **countered by** bringing out a legendary English-speaking artist and combined cultures by having her sing the song she shares with Bruno Mars — an artist of Puerto Rican descent.

His theme of love was introduced here with a real Puerto Rican wedding taking place. The wedding conveyed a true island gathering with native instruments, kids running around, everyone dancing and a kid asleep across three chairs — an action many Puerto Ricans remember **partaking** in during their childhood. After “NUEVAYoL,” Bad Bunny showed a Puerto Rican family resembling his own watching his Grammy Speech, then handed his award to an actor playing young Benito, telling him, “Cree siempre en ti” which translates to “Believe in yourself always” **urging** him — and other Boricua kids — to believe in their dreams.

He then brought the set of his album cover to life with a performance by Ricky Martin. Martin sat in one of the plastic chairs featured on the cover — an iconic item that represents the island's social life. Martin intentionally performed Bad Bunny's “LO QUE LE PASÓ A HAWAII” — an emotional ballad describing the fears many Puerto Ricans share of the island's potential of becoming a U.S. state and being gentrified like Hawaii was.

The political messaging continued when he got on electrical posts with power lines to sing “El Apagón.” The set production recreated the **blackouts** the island frequently experiences due to failing power grids. The song itself describes the lasting damage Hurricane Maria caused to the island's infrastructure and confronts the governments' lack of action.

Bad Bunny waved a Puerto Rican flag with a light blue triangle instead of the traditional dark blue, referencing the independence movement and **alluding** to his song “LA MuDANZA,” which credits the 1948 Gag Law that criminalized displaying the flag on the island.

While getting off the posts, he began to sing “CAFÉ CON RON” as flags from every country in the Americas were rushed onto the field. Here, he yelled his only English words during the show: “God bless America.” He followed by listing almost every country in America. The football from the beginning reappeared in his hands to reveal a message reading “Together, we are America.”

It seems that Bad Bunny's statement here is that America goes beyond the borders of the U.S. and is more than just one flag. He establishes that America is defined by the collection of cultures within the countries he listed and the flags displayed.

He proceeded to throw the football down and said “Seguimos aquí,” which translates to “We’re still here” — a finale in which he reiterates that after everything, Puerto Ricans and Latinos still exist across the continent.

As he exited the field, the infamous words from his Grammy speech “The only thing more powerful than hate is love” appeared on the screen behind him.

In just 13 minutes, Bad Bunny globally celebrated his culture, highlighted the island’s history, emphasized love and delivered messages about what it means to be a true “American.”

Paulina Arana, www.newsrecord.org, Feb 13, 2026



illustration issue de : <https://www.forbes.com/sites/hannahabraham/2026/02/08/what-did-bad-bunnys-halftime-show-mean-every-cultural-reference-broken-down/>







INVICTUS

Out of the night that covers me,
Black as the Pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever gods may be
For my unconquerable soul.

In the fell clutch of circumstance
I have not winced nor cried aloud.
Under the bludgeonings of chance
My head is bloody, but unbowed.

Beyond this place of wrath and tears
Looms but the Horror of the shade,
And yet the menace of the years
Finds, and shall find, me unafraid.

It matters not how strait the gate,
How charged with punishments the scroll.
I am the master of my fate:
I am the captain of my soul.

~ *William Ernest Henley*

